

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 07244

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, VS, VN

SUBJECT: WEST GERMAN VIEWS ON RELATIONS WITH FUTURE
SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT.

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1. AT MAY 2 PRESS CONFERENCE, THE FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN, ASKED ABOUT THE FRG'S FUTURE RELATIONS TO SOUTH VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA, REPLIED THAT THIS WOULD DEPEND ON THE POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE NEW RULERS OF THOSE COUNTRIES WITH REGARD TO THEIR FOREIGN RELATIONS. THIS IN TURN WOULD DEPEND ON THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SITUATION. IF THE NEW GOVERNMENTS INDICATED A DESIRE TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, THIS WOULD BE EXAMINED VERY CAREFULLY.

2. A WELL-INFORMED SOURCE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS TOLD US THAT THE FRG WANTS TO REACTIVATE ITS RELATIONS WITH SOUTH VIETNAM AS SOON AS CONDITIONS PERMIT. FRG POLICY, THIS TIME AS IN THE PAST, IS THAT THE ISSUE OF RECOGNITION DOES NOT ARISE SINCE THE FRG RECOGNIZES STATES RATHER THAN GOVERNMENTS. THE FRG AMBASSADOR DROEGE WAS SENT TO BANGKOK LATE LAST WEEK TO AWAIT A CLARIFICATION OF THE SITUATION AND TO BE IN A POSITION TO RETURN TO SAIGON ON SHORT NOTICE IF NECESSARY.

3. OUR SOURCE THOUGHT, NEVERTHELESS, THAT IT MIGHT TAKE SOME TIME BEFORE THE CONDITIONS FOR AMBASSADOR DROEGE'S RETURN WOULD BE MET. THE STATEMENTS OF THE NEW AUTHORITIES IN SAIGON ON THE SUBJECT OF RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN CONTRADICTORY, HE NOTED. WHILE VIET CONG REPRESENTATIVES IN PARIS HAVE SOUNDED A RELATIVELY CONCILIATORY NOTE, RADIO STATEMENTS OUT OF SAIGON HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLY MORE HARSH.

4. IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE PURPOSE OF OUR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS OF THIS SUBJECT WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO HAVE THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON RELATIONS WITH THE NEW SOUTH VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES.
HILLENBRAND

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